

CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: 13 Reasons Why: Season 2

Other known title(s): 13 Reasons Why: Season 2 (Episodes 1-13)

OFLC ref: 1800229.000

Medium: Video On-Demand

Distributor: Netflix

Director: Gregg Araki
et al.

Producer: Barbara D'Alessandro

Country of origin: United States

Language: English

Applicant: Chief Censor

Classification:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years, or who are accompanied by a parent or guardian.
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Display conditions:	Components	Running Time
When the publication is on public display, the classification given to the publication must be shown by way of a label issued in accordance with a direction under section 36(A)(2) that is brought to the attention of viewers before they begin watching.		
Timed component(s):	Episode 1	59:08

	Episode 2	59:00
	Episode 3	56:19
	Episode 4	56:20
	Episode 5	56:27
	Episode 6	56:58
	Episode 7	55:29
	Episode 8	56:46
	Episode 9	56:31
	Episode 10	54:09
	Episode 11	57:13
	Episode 12	55:47
	Episode 13	69:41
Total running time:		749:48

Descriptive note: Rape, suicide themes, drug use and bullying.

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Date of entry in Register: 18 May 2018

Date of direction to issue a label: 18 May 2018

Date of notice of decision: 18 May 2018

Summary of reasons for decision:

'13 Reasons Why: Season 2' is the second season of the controversial series made by the Subscription/Streaming Video on Demand service, Netflix. The Chief Censor called in this series under s13(3) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 (FVPC Act) due to concerns about its content after having previewed the episodes. This season follows on from the first series and deals with the fall-out from Hannah Baker's suicide and its impact on her family and friends. As with the first series, there is merit in addressing issues that are highly relevant to young people, including suicide, sexual violence, drug use and bullying. As part of the classification process, the Classification Office again consulted the Mental Health Foundation New Zealand who also provided advice on the classification of the first season. The Classification Office considers that there are strong similarities in the way the themes and issues are dealt with in both seasons of this series and has determined that this season also be restricted to persons aged 18 or over, unless supervised by an adult viewer, ordinarily a parent but potentially another responsible adult, older sibling or guardian. This classification interferes with the right to freedom of expression contained in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, but it is a reasonable and justifiable limitation on that right. The classification allows the intended audience of young people to access the episodes, while providing the necessary intervention of adult supervision in order to keep them safe and able to sufficiently navigate the relevant but troubling issues that the series deals with. A public display condition is also imposed upon this series. The display of a show known to deal with particularly sensitive subject matter including rape, suicide and teenage bullying, without any warning to children and teens or their parents, is likely to be offensive to reasonable members of the public. Displaying a label that shows the classification and descriptive note will avoid this. This season follows on from the

first series and deals with the fall-out from Hannah Baker's suicide and its impact on her family and friends.

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